

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **FINAL EIS ISSUED FOR I-405 TRAFFIC SOLUTIONS**

### **Action Marks Major Milestone for Future Corridor Improvements**

SEATTLE, WA – June 28, 2002 – The WSDOT-sponsored I-405 Corridor Program has issued a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) on a proposed package of transportation improvements to reduce traffic congestion, improve safety and provide more travel choices in the I-405 corridor. Completing the FEIS marks a major step toward implementing a regional plan to fix one of the most congested freeways in the state, used by over 600,000 people a day.

The FEIS documents the work of a unique partnership between all the local jurisdictions, elected officials and agencies within the I-405 corridor to reach agreement on a comprehensive transportation improvement plan for the corridor. The I-405 plan calls for a “multimodal package” of investments that will add up to two new lanes each direction to I-405, implement a corridor-wide bus rapid transit system and increase local service, fix bottlenecks such as the SR 167/I-405 interchange, and add 1,700 new vanpools and over 5,000 park and ride spaces to the corridor.

### **FEIS Available for Review throughout I-405 Corridor**

Copies of the FEIS are available for review at all public libraries in the I-405 corridor and on the program’s website at [www.wsdot.wa.gov/I-405](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/I-405). Contact Christina Martinez, WSDOT, at 401 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. S., Suite 300, Seattle WA 98104-2887, (206) 389-3256, to request a printed or an electronic CD version. Requests may also be emailed to [I-405@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:I-405@wsdot.wa.gov)

Issuing the FEIS completes three-years of technical work and consensus building, producing the most comprehensive transportation analysis in the state’s history. The environmental review process provides the public and decision-makers with all relevant information related to the impacts of proposed I-405 improvements. Public comments received during the Draft EIS public review period are also addressed in the document.

### **Getting Ready for Investments in the Future**

The I-405 Corridor Program is a WSDOT-sponsored, community based partnership. Teams of engineers are currently developing projects along the corridor to be implemented when funding becomes available. Commuters already experience up to 12 hours of congestion a day in some parts of I-405. The goals of the I-405 program include making improvements that will benefit all users while seeking opportunities to enhance the environment along the urban corridor.

Additional project information is available on the Program’s Web site: [www.wsdot.wa.gov/I-405](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/I-405).